

BLM's "Take It Outside: Children and Nature" Program FY 2009 Information and Application

Examples of how funding for this initiative could be used:

- **For Schools:** Enhance outdoor education programs with school partners at a number of locations. For example, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is a strong supporter of "Hands on the Land," a network of field classrooms sponsored by six federal agencies across the nation. Currently 30 BLM sites are members of this network. School initiatives linked to the "Hands on the Land" program will be given priority over other programs for schools.
- **For Youth Organizations:** Strengthen partnerships with communities, partner groups, and volunteers to offer expanded programs for youth. For example, the BLM enters partnerships with organizations and programs such as Girl Scouts of the USA, the Boy Scouts of America, 4-H, Kids Fishing Day and Wonderful Outdoor World, to introduce youth to fishing, camping, and other forms of outdoor recreation.
- **For Families:** Develop educational and interpretive materials or websites to promote and enhance family friendly outdoor recreation opportunities. For example, develop interpretive maps and trail guides or Junior Explorer booklets; construct or add a "Take it Outside: Children and Nature Program" webpage on state office or field office websites. The webpage could identify family recreational activities such as hiking, paddling, historical and archaeological interpretive programs, adventure sports, as well as geologic sightseeing and wildlife watching.

Selection Criteria: Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. **Project Scope and Objective.** Does the project support the scope and objective of the program? Does the project engage children in meaningful and sustained outdoor experiences, and/or provide research findings to increase the engagement of children in natural settings? Does the project engage children in experiences that will enable them to have hands on experiences and interactions with public land resources? The project must take place primarily on BLM public lands, though inter-agency projects also are encouraged. (20 %)
2. **Project Partners.** Does the project engage federal and/or non-federal partners? An essential element of TIO is the importance of working with partners and leveraging funds. Describe total partner contributions and provide an estimate of the value of their contribution, including contributed funds. (20 %)
3. **Target audience.** Does the project clearly define the audience? How many people will this project impact? (20 %)

4. **Project Impact.** Does the project demonstrate increased understanding and interaction with natural and cultural resources? What is the anticipated impact on the audience or surrounding community? (20 %)
5. **Project Duration and Sustainability.** Is the project a short or long-term project? Does the project address future longevity? Does the project strengthen a program to increase durability and long term effectiveness? (20 %)

Approved TIO projects will be required to have a project number to facilitate accountability and financial tracking. A cap of 10 % is placed on allowable BLM internal overhead charges (P & X codes) against TIO funds. Project accomplishments must be reported by September 30, 2009, to Patti Klein.

“Take It Outside” Incentive Funding Application

- 1. Project Title:**
- 2. Project Description:** *Provide background information and a short summary of the project. Explain how the project meets the provided criteria and the primary objective of engaging children in meaningful and sustained outdoor experiences. Indicate if this is a single year or multi- year project.*
- 3. Project leader and phone number:**
- 4. State/Field Office location:**
- 5. List primary partner organization(s) and role(s) including partner contributions (include both in-kind and funding support provided):**
- 6. Past partnership, project or program successes:**
- 7. Age group or demographic targeted and estimated number of participants:**
- 8. Funding requested:** (Funding may be requested for no less than \$1000 and no more than \$5000, and must be spent or obligated in FY 2009. TIO incentive funds **MAY NOT** be used to fund BLM staff salaries.)

How to Apply: Complete and submit the application to Patti Klein, National Stewardship Coordinator at: patti_klein@blm.gov by **January 30, 2009**. Applicants may apply for incentive funding amounts of \$1000 - \$5000. Field offices will be notified of **selection by March 1, 2009** and be given a Washington Office charge code to use for the project and assigned a project number.